

**MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

March 10, 2015

Present: John F. Danehey, Chairman, Shawn Harris; Maura Curran; Martin O’Toole
Anthony Vegnani-Not in Attendance
Patricia A. Vinchesi, Town Administrator; Finance Director Nancy Holt

The Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM

Acceptance of Agenda

Mr. O’Toole made a MOTION to accept the agenda for March 10, 2015. Mr. Harris SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0)

Library Building Project. Present for this discussion is Joe Sullivan, Daedalus Project Manager and Kevin Kelly, Facilities Director as well as Library Director, Jessi Finnie.

Mr. Harris made a MOTION that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the library project final design. Ms. Curran SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Kevin Kelly, Facilities Director, updated the Board on the plans to relocate the library temporarily to the Scituate Harbor Community Building during the library renovations. Mr. Kelly outlined the upgrades to the SHCB which will be done; one being a new roof. These upgrades are necessary for the library relocation as well as for the future use of this building.

June 5th is the last day the library will be open at 85 Branch Street. The Director said that it will take about a week to get everything up and running at 44 Jericho Road. They are aiming for June 15th to open in the SHCB.

Board and Committee Appointment. Mr. Nolan Kelly introduced himself as a candidate for the Economic Development Committee. He just moved here; will be raising his family here and is eager to become involved. The Board is very impressed with his resume and will vote on this appointment later in this meeting. Mr. Kelly feels there is a lot of opportunity for economic development and looks forward to the challenge.

Heritage Days Special Event. Dr, Nico Afanasenko was present to speak about this event, along with other members of the Harbor Merchants Association and the Scituate Chamber of Commerce. This is a follow up to address certain concerns which were noted at the previous Board meeting. He and his Committee met with the Harbormaster, Police Chief and Fire Chief with regard to boater parking, commercial

fisherman parking and access by safety vehicles. Both the Police Chief and the Fire Chief do not want a trolley running on Front Street next to vendors. They both agree with keeping Otis Road open.

Ann Burbine, 10 Pennycress Road, member of the Scituate Chamber of Commerce, disagrees with keeping Otis Road open to traffic. She strongly believes this is a safety issue. However, the Police and Fire Chief are on board with keeping Otis Road open.

Jerry McMorrow, 123 Front Street and Scituate Harbor Merchant voiced his disagreement with the plan to take crafters off Front Street between Otis and Allen Place. He feels this will decrease revenue.

Chairman Danehey noted that the members of the Heritage Days Event Committee do not seem to be in sync. He said that the Board cannot be expected to vote on an event when committee members are disagreeing on important issues. Dr. Afanasenko stated that it was very important that the Board of Selectmen approve the event application so that the committee could move forward on the organization of the even, and he assured the Chairman that his committee would work out their differences.

Elaine Bongarzone, 17 Gates Circle and member of the Chamber, explained that while the committee may have differing opinions on some aspects of the plans for Heritage Days, she hoped that the Board could vote the event so they may proceed with planning. She also believes the committee will be able to come to terms with any areas of disagreement. The Town Administrator agreed that the Board could vote pending further review by department heads.

Mr. Harris made a MOTION that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the revised plans for Heritage Days with all Town of Scituate Departmental requirements implemented. Mr. O'Toole SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Discuss Capital Plan. Present for this discussion is Chairman, David Capelle. The Board of Selectmen Chairman noted that this was a joint meeting with Advisory Committee to discuss the Capital Plan. Mr. Capelle reviewed the committee's recommendations to be brought forward to Town Meeting (see attached). The total amount of Capital Projects is \$2,479,549.00. No tax payer borrowing in this recommended Capital Plan.

After outlining each item, discussion ensued about the natural gas generator for \$180,000 at the Transfer Station. Mr. Danehey asked if this item was unanimously voted by the Capital Planning Committee and Mr. Capelle said it was. Mr. Danehey was surprised, since he felt that for the few times we lose power, residents would still be able to use the Transfer Station even with no power. Mr. Harris agreed. Kevin Cafferty, DPW Director noted that the Transfer Station was without power for

approximately five days in August after Hurricane Irene, and this outage presented problems with some of the equipment. Mr. Danehey felt strongly that his item was unnecessary. The loss of power for that many days is unusual.

The Chairman called for a motion and suggested segregating the \$180,000 natural gas generator. Ms. Curran stated that she was in support of the item. Mr. Harris stated that he would support to bring it forward to Town Meeting. The Chairman questioned if he could make a motion, and the Town Administrator said she thought he could, although historically this Board has not done so. After some consideration, Mr. Danehey called for a member of the Board to make a motion.

Mr. Harris made a MOTION to support the recommended Capital Plan as presented. Ms. Curran SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Discuss/Vote Community Preservation Committee. Karen Connolly, Chairman of the committee was present to review her committee's recommendations for consideration at Town Meeting. Eleven applications were approved for a total of \$293,559.00. North Scituate Beach Nourishment Project - \$100,000; Tercentenary Markers Restoration Project - \$11,400; Lighthouse Lantern Room Evaluation Project - \$14,700; Lighthouse Boardwalk Project - \$16,800; Marquis de Lafayette Carriage Restoration Project - \$18,000; Improvements at the Old Oaken Bucket House/Cushing Shay Restoration Project - \$69,000; Sailing Fleet Restoration Project - \$30,712; Microfiche of Scituate Mariner Project - \$7,784; Civil War Book and Restoration of Selectmen's Records Project - \$10,963; Bailey-Ellis House Dining Room Beam Preservation Project - \$8,300; Teak Sherman Community Garden - \$6,000.

Ms. Connolly also presented Article 14, which is the CPC's reconciliations. She explained that this was rescinding the balance of unexpended funds from prior year's projects. Any outstanding balances from prior years would be returned to the General Fund or Reserve Fund.

Ms. Curran made a MOTION to support Community Preservation Committee Article 11 as presented. Mr. Harris SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Mr. O'Toole made a MOTION to support Community Preservation Act Reconciliations Article 12 as written in the warrant. Mr. Harris SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Discuss/Vote DPW Projects. Present for this agenda item are Kevin Cafferty, DPW Director and Sean McCarthy, Town Engineer. The Town of Scituate DPW and the Recreation Department are proposing to reconstruct the Humarock Beach Parking lot and basketball court.

Ms. Curran made a MOTION that the Board of Selectmen award the contract for the Humarock Beach Parking Lot and Basketball Court Improvements to E J Paving of Methuen, MA, for a total of \$183,333.00. Mr. O'Toole SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

The Town is in the second year of a major rehabilitation of the water system. Phase 2A will replace water mains on Country Way, Elm Street, Cudworth Road and First Parish Road.

Mr. O'Toole made a MOTION that the Board of Selectmen award the contract for Phase 2A of the water main rehabilitation project to R & D Site Development of Groveland, MA for \$2,920,957.94. Mr. Harris SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

FY 16 Department Budget Reviews

159 Cable Budget. Cable Studio Manager John Roser presented his budget to the Board. Chairman Danehey complimented John on the good work the station is doing covering meetings and events, as well as the movies that run. John explained that his technical needs are what drive his budget figures up each year.

310 South Shore Regional School. South Shore Regional Representative Jack Manning was present to discuss the budget figures. The final figure is \$565,989.00. The increase is due to 5 additional students from Scituate this year as well as the increase in the town's assessment by \$80,000 due to the state's minimum contribution requirement for each town, which in Scituate's case increased from \$251,035 to \$331,028. This is Scituate's share of district costs which is part of the formula the State Department of Education uses for Regional Schools.

300 School Budget. John McCarthy, Superintendent and Business and Finance Director Paul Donlan presented the budget.

Before addressing the FY 16 proposed budget, Mr. McCarthy explained the shortfalls in the FY 15 budget – Purchase of Services - which is due primarily to our out-of-district SPED tuitions, which came in after the FY 15 budget was set and are very hard to predict, and also SPED transportation which went along with those out of district placements and increased over 100% from what was budgeted in FY 15. Additionally, State Grants were cut from programs which were already in place (METCO and Full Day Kindergarten).

Mr. McCarthy stated that the FY16 budget request is \$34,028,486. This is a 3.7% increase over FY 15 (see attached detail). They will be discussing with the School Committee the possibility of outsourcing both the SPED Transportation and the Busing (included in the attached detail). The Public Hearing for the School Budget and Proposal for outsourcing the school buses is scheduled for Monday, March 16th.

Members of the Board stated that while they realize it is a School Committee decision, they disagree with the outsourcing of the busing operation which would jeopardize the employment status of the current bus drivers. Although they would likely remain in the employ of the leasing company, they would no longer be able to receive the benefits which they now receive as town employees.

Discuss/Vote Special Town Meeting & Annual Town Meeting Warrant

The Board will be voting STM and ATM Warrants for April 13, 2015.

Mr. O'Toole made a MOTION that the Board approve Articles 1 through 10 for the April 13, 2015 Special Town Meeting warrant contingent upon any further changes by Town Counsel or the Town Administrator. Mr. Harris SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Mr. Harris made a MOTION that the Board approve Article 1 of the April 13, 2015 Annual Town Meeting warrant contingent upon any further changes by Town Counsel or the Town Administrator. Mr. O'Toole SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Ms. Curran made a MOTION that the Board approve Article 2 of the April 13, 2015 Annual Town Meeting warrant contingent upon any further changes by Town Counsel or the Town Administrator. Mr. Harris SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Having voted to approve Article 3 – Capital Plan – earlier in the meeting, the following motion was made:

Mr. Harris made a MOTION to place Article 3 on the April 13, 2015 Annual Town Meeting warrant. Mr. O'Toole SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Due to some changes to the Operating Budget since the Budget Books were provided to the Board, Finance Director Nancy Holt reviewed the new figures which are reflected in Article 4 (see attached).

Mr. O'Toole made a MOTION that the Board approve Article 4 of the April 13, 2015 Annual Town Meeting warrant contingent upon any further changes by Town Counsel or the Town Administrator. Mr. Harris SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Mr. O'Toole made a MOTION that the Board approve Articles 5 through 9 of the April 13, 2015 Annual Town Meeting warrant contingent upon any further changes by Town Counsel or the Town Administrator. Mr. Harris SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Ms. Vinchesi noted that Article 10 – Establishment of Stabilization Fund for Water Enterprise - listed on the Draft ATM back-up is a duplicate and is on the Special Town Meeting. Therefore, the numbering will change going forward from this point on.

Mr. O’Toole made a MOTION that the Board approve Article 10 of the April 13, 2015 Annual Town Meeting warrant contingent upon any further changes by Town Counsel or the Town Administrator. Mr. Harris SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Having voted to approve Article 11 (Community Preservation) and Article 12 (Community Preservation Act Reconciliations) earlier in the meeting, the following motion was made:

Ms. Curran made a MOTION to place Article 11 and Article 12 on the April 13, 2015 Annual Town Meeting warrant contingent upon any further changes by Town Counsel or the Town Administrator. Mr. Harris SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Mr. O’Toole made a MOTION to approve Article 13 of the April 13, 2015 Annual Town Meeting warrant contingent upon any further changes by Town Counsel or the Town Administrator. Mr. Harris SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Ms. Curran made a MOTION to approve Article 14 of the April 13, 2015 Annual Town Meeting warrant contingent upon any further changes by Town Counsel or the Town Administrator. Mr. O’Toole SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Mr. Danehey noted that this article was scheduled for last fall’s Special Town Meeting, but was postponed by the proponents at the request of the Board to further educate the residents about the proposal they are making. He said that they have done what was requested of them, and the Board is bringing this to Town Meeting for the voters to decide on themselves.

Mr. O’Toole made a MOTION to approve Article 15 of the April 13, 2015 Annual Town Meeting warrant contingent upon any further changes by Town Counsel or the Town Administrator. Mr. Harris SECONDED. Vote 3-1. Ms. Curran voted against the motion.

Mr. Harris made a MOTION to approve Article 16 of the April 13, 2015 Annual Town Meeting warrant contingent upon any further changes by Town Counsel or the Town Administrator. Mr. O’Toole SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Mr. Harris made a MOTION to approve Article 17 of the April 13, 2015 Annual Town Meeting warrant contingent upon any further changes by Town Counsel or the Town Administrator. Ms. Curran SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Article 18 is a Petition article to appropriate money for seawall repair. The Town Administrator explained that all petition articles must be placed on the warrant. The Petitioner presents this at Town Meeting. The Board votes to approve or not to approve.

Ms. Curran noted that there is no identified source of funding for this article except for borrowing, and we would prefer not to do so, since there is no borrowing planned for any Capital Project this year.

Mr. Danehey cannot support this article as presented. He feels that this is not the time considering the two recent projects just approved at town meeting and the money that has been spent in the past five years on seawalls. The petitioners have not identified a funding source, and it cannot come out of the Operating Budget. He suggested the petitioners bring this to a vote for a debt exclusion override for the funds. He also mentioned the problem with access easements.

Mr. O'Toole will be supporting this article. He feels there is a need to repair seawalls and something must be done. Ms. Curran agreed, but she felt a long range plan needs to be in place for foreshore protection.

Mr. O'Toole made a MOTION to support Petition Article 18 on the April 13, 2015 Annual Town Meeting warrant. No SECOND was made. MOTION failed.

Mr. Harris made a MOTION not to support Petition Article 18 on the April 13, 2015 Annual Town Meeting warrant. Ms. Curran SECONDED. Vote 3-1. Mr. O'Toole voted against the motion.

Mr. Harris made a MOTION to approve Article 19 of the April 13, 2015 Annual Town Meeting warrant contingent upon any further changes by Town Counsel or the Town Administrator. Ms. Curran SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

New Business

Mr. Harris made a MOTION to appoint Nolan Kelly to the Economic Development Commission. Mr. O'Toole SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Ms. Curran made a MOTION to approve a one day entertainment license for one acoustic performer on TK O'Malley's sidewalk on Friday, May 1, 2015 from

5 PM to 9 PM for the Scituate Harbor Art Walk. Mr. O’Toole SECONDED. All in favor. Unanimous vote (4-0).

Mr. Harris made a MOTION that the Board appoints Mr. Vegnani to the BOS Liaison position for the Affordable Housing Trust Committee. Mr. O’Toole SECONDED. Vote 3-1. Ms. Curran voted against the motion.

Ms. Curran was reluctant to appoint Mr. Vegnani to the position when he was absent from the meeting. She said that if he accepts the Liaison position, she will work closely with him on this very important committee.

Other Business

Ms. Curran mentioned that Town Hall has received numerous complaints regarding the fact that dog owners have not been responsible when it comes to cleaning up after their dogs. At Widow’s Walk, Cole Parkway and Driftway Park, to name a few places, it is particularly disgusting. Please clean up after your dog.

Mr. O’Toole mentioned the new date of the St. Patrick’s Day Parade – April 12, 2015 starting time is 1 PM.

Ms. Curran mentioned the nice letters received thanking the DPW staff for their hard work this past winter. She thanked the residents for taking the time to send these letters letting staff know their efforts are appreciated.

Ms. Curran thanked Joanne Ball for accompanying her on her tour of the Rockland and the Weymouth Senior Centers.

Mr. Danehey commended the boys’ recreational basketball program sponsored by the Recreation Department. Al Kazlousky and Mike Curran and J. L. Murphy, among others, run a great program.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila M. Manning
Assistant to the Town Administrator